EXHIBIT 1.

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          IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
1
        FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
2
                                      NO. 12-CV-02393
3
4
    SECURITY & DATA TECHNOLOGIES ) DEPOSITION UPON
5
    INC.
                    Plaintiff,
                                   ) ORAL EXAMINATION
6
7
                                             OF
               - vs -
    SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA KENNETH SPRESSART
8
    PHILADELPHIA SCHOOL REFORM
    COMMISSION & ARLENE C. ACKERMAN
9
10
                    Defendant.
11
12
               TRANSCRIPT OF DEPOSITION, taken by and
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14
    before NICOLE CIAVATTO, Reporter and Notary Public,
    at the offices of the TUCKER LAW GROUP, LLC, 1617
15
    JFK Boulevard, Suite 1700, Philadelphia,
16
    Pennsylvania, 19103, on Monday, June 16, 2014,
17
    commencing at 10:00 a.m.
18
19
20
                  DYNAMIC REPORTING, LLC
21
            10 Alberta Court, Sewell, NJ 08080
               Two Penn Center, Suite 1850
22
          1500 JFK Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19102
                       (215) 880-1517
23
                dynamicreporters@gmail.com
               www.dynamicreportingllc.com
24
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		48
1	hundred percent complete here.	
2	Q And where are you pointing?	
3	A Two columns over. It'll say	
4	percent complete. That means the job	
5	recently was finished up within a period of	
6	time and it hasn't come off the report. I'm	
7	not I don't get involved with the running	
8	of these. So the actual content and what	
9	creates this, I don't have full knowledge	
10	of.	
11	Q So where it says zero under the	
12	column "percent complete," that means that	
13	no work has begun?	
14	A Correct.	
15	Q And so does the gross profit	
16	margin percentage change throughout the	
17	course of the project?	
18	A Yes, it would.	
19	Q And if you look at the bottom	
20	of this report where the column that says	
21	"gross profit," if you follow it down, it	
22	appears to say "\$900,401.03." What does	
23	that represent?	
24	A Appears to be a summarization	

66 1 BY MR. KLAPROTH: Typically what type of 2 Okay. gross profit percentage would you be looking 3 to get on a School District project? 4 5 Α Typically we were in the -- for the small bid and chase jobs, we try to get 6 7 30, 35. But as you can see, it does not 8 always work that way. Was there a difference in gross 9 Q profit percentage in jobs that you acquired 10 11 through direct contact with School District 12 personnel verses through the bid process? 13 We strived for consistency. Α I would say the goals are the same. 14 15 Q Do you know whether or not SDT 16 has to have any special certification in 17 order to do work for the School District of Philadelphia? 18 19 I believe there are -- there is 20 something out there in the city that you 21 have to be part of and on, not necessarily 22 tied to the state of Pennsylvania, but that 23 you are a registered listed contractor in 24 the city of Philadelphia that allows you to

		93	
1	that level. The strictly a fire alarm or		
2	security project, it may not have a general		
	contractor involved.		
3			
4	Q Does SDT ever work as an		
5	electrical contractor?		
6	A Very limitedly and on very		
7	specific projects.		
8	Q Has SDT ever worked as		
9	electrical contractor for the School		
10	District of Philadelphia?		
11	A No.		
12	Q Okay. Does SDT ever work as a		
13	prime contractor?		
14	A Yes.		
15	Q Has SDT ever worked as a prime		
16	contractor for the School District of		
17	Philadelphia?		
18	A Yes.		
19	Q And can you tell me what those		
20	projects were?		
21	A The two that really stick out		
22	in my mind, based on $\underline{\text{D2}}$ would be the PSD440,		
23	building turn-style, phases one and two.		
24	And right under it, the PSD fire tower		

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1	access control doors.	
2	Q Okay.	
3	A Those were two rather large	
4	jobs to tighten up security at 440 North	
5	Broad at the direction of Miss Ackerman.	
6	Q And when you say	
7	"Miss Ackerman," do you mean Arlene	
8	Ackerman?	
9	A Yes.	
10	Q And so it looks like the turn	
11	styles project, if I look at $\underline{D2}$, the	
12	contract date February 24th, 2010; is that	
13	correct?	
14	A February 24, 2010. That's	
15	correct.	
16	Q Okay. And the PSD fire tower	
17	project was March 19, 2010?	
18	A Correct.	
19	Q Are there any other projects	
20	that the SDT has worked as prime contractor	
21	on for the School District of Philadelphia?	
22	A On this list, no.	
23	Q Okay. Can you tell me	
24	approximately what percentage of work SDT	

102 heard of the School Reform Commission? 1 generally? 2 Well, what haven't you heard? 3 It's all over newspaper articles and TV and, 4 It -- it's been out there for 5 you know. years and years and years. You hear all 6 kinds of stuff. Good and bad. 7 Were you familiar with Q Okay. 8 any of the internal approval processes that 9 the School District of Philadelphia would 10 use in deciding whether or not to use SDT on 11 12 a project? MR. HOMANS: Just object to form. 13 The term "familiar." Not sure what that 14 15 means. THE WITNESS: I'm familiar with 16 processes that would be used for anybody, 17 any firm, not just security and data or 18 SDT. 19 BY MR. KLAPROTH: 20 Specific to the School District 21 of Philadelphia, though, do you have any 22 familiarity with what their internal 23 processes are for approving work with SDT? 24

103 I have a general concept. 1 Α Okay. What is that concept? 2 Q Basically that we always had to 3 provide written costs. Those costs would be 4 heavily scrutinized. And, you know, there'd 5 be more than one round of pricing, always to 6 get the number down. So in my eyes, very 7 competitive process. And then just wait. 8 And either a purchase order would show up 9 or, you know, once in a while I'd heard they 10 had to go through a resolution to get it 11 before the School Reform Commission for 12 That's it. Again, as far as 13 approval. timing, sometimes it was quick, sometimes 14 it's only a certain time of the month you 15 had to get it in by. So, you know, when 16 they called, we jumped, and we got them what 17 they needed quickly and we just wait and 18 19 see. Okay. I think before when you 20 Q were telling me about how you would work 21 through a bidding process, and you said that 22 you would get the papers or get the 23 documents from the purchaser. You would go 24

		132
1	September 8th. We met on September 7th. So	
2	it was way too early for that whole process.	
3	Q Okay. Now, I believe in <u>D3</u> , in	
4	the email that you wrote to Miss McCole, it	
5	states, "Remember, I will be with Joe all	
6	day tomorrow on the site surveys."	
7	Do you know whether or not you	
8	started the site surveys on September 9?	
9	A To the best of my recollection,	
10	we did. If I put it here, then we most	
11	certainly yeah, I would say we did.	
12	Yeah.	
13	Q Do you know how many days total	
14	you spent surveying the 19 schools?	
15	MR. HOMANS: Do you mean "you,"	
16	SDT?	
17	BY MR. KLAPROTH:	
18	Q SDT.	
19	A Exactly how many days, I'd have	
20	to reconstruct it. The better part of	
21	I'd say eight to ten business days. That	
22	would include, you know, going to each	
23	location, meeting with the schools, meeting	
24	with principals, security folks. And then	

	133
1	meeting with School District personnel to
2	put closure to it.
3	Q Okay. When you say "put
4	closure to it," what do you mean?
5	A Meaning, fine tune it on some
6	additional scope. It never got fine tuned
7	all the way, we never got to that point.
8	They got to a certain point and then it was
9	stopped. But, you know, you get to a point,
10	you design build projects, you have a big
11	window, and then you got to start bringing
12	that window in, fine tune it.
13	Q When you first started let
14	me back up.
15	Were you actually did you do
16	the surveys of the 19 schools, you personally?
17	A Yes.
18	Q Okay. Who else from SDT
19	participated in those surveys?
20	A Joe Snell.
21	Q Anybody else?
22	A Possibly one of our technicians
23	for a day or so. I don't recall a
24	hundred percent accurately, but I think we

185 Typically, yes. 1 A And would you wait for that 2 Q purchase order before beginning a School 3 District project? 4 We would start some 5 preliminary. We would maybe start the 6 submittal process, if required, we start 7 some of the engineering, if required, in 8 order to keep the ball moving because they 9 can be, at times, tardy in purchase orders. 10 Okay. And so the preliminary 11 engineering, is that something that you 12 typically would be compensated for in the 13 contract or would you be paid separately for 14 that or would you not be paid at all? 15 At that point in time, No. 16 once we have a proposal to the customer, all 17 those costs and charges are built into our 18 total number. So that's part of the 19 20 process. Have you ever started 21 preliminary engineering or other preliminary 22 work on a School District contract prior to 23 getting the signed purchase order? 24

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                   MR. HOMANS: When you say "School
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         District, " you mean this School District
2
         or any school district?
3
    BY MR. KLAPROTH:
4
                  This School District. School
5
           Q
    District of Philadelphia.
6
                  Directly for the School
7
           A
    District?
8
           Q
                  Yes.
9
                  Hundred percent factual, I
10
                  I'm sure we have done some, but
11
    cannot say.
    how many, I --
12
                  Okay.
13
            Q
                  I'd have to go back to the
14
    records to see if we actually did that.
15
    Typically for School District, we would wait
16
    for a purchase order.
17
                  You would wait for the purchase
18
19
    order, you said?
                  We wait for a purchase order.
20
            Α
    Again, every job circumstance is different,
21
                If we're going to lay out a big
22
    sum of money, like on turn styles, we want
23
    to make sure that's bona fide. Again,
24
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	1:	87
1	having to make a good business decision.	
2	Q Now, at some point when you	
3	finished the survey of the 19 schools, did	
4	you submit your survey findings to anybody	
5	at the School District?	
6	A Yes.	
7	Q Who did you submit them to?	
8	A They were submitted to Amy	
9	McCole and Phillip Kayman.	
10	Q How were they submitted?	
11	A In person, meeting.	
12	Q And when was that meeting?	
13	A Don't recall the actual date.	
14	I know it was September, but prior to	
15	September 23.	
16	Q Had SDT come up with a rough	
17	estimate of what the project would cost at	
18	that point?	
19	A Walking out of that meeting, I	
20	was asked. And I based upon the	
21	knowledge and just running through some	
22	facts and figures, looking at the labor, how	
23	many hours had looking at the whole big	
24	picture, I threw out a number of four and a	

188 half to six and a half million. That's a 1 2 big spread. Now, in a project, like the 3 persistently dangerous schools project, 4 would the contract, or the eventual purchase 5 orders, I should say, would that be a fixed 6 price such as the contract would be for a 7 certain amount, and that's it? Or would it 8 be time and materials that you have up to a 9 certain amount and whatever it costs, it 10 11 costs? Typically it goes by how the 12 project's being run by the School District. 13 This was never discussed to be a time and 14 material basis. You know, in my opinion, it 15 We hadn't was not right for prime time yet. 16 got to where we had hard solid numbers to 17 work from in order to even have a purchase 18 order cut. It just wasn't there yet. 19 were getting there, but we still had too 20 many loose ends. 21 And what were those loose ends? 22 Talking about support structure 23 for the security offices. There was some 24

190 Did SDT have any plans to begin 1 any preliminary engineering or any other 2 preliminary work prior to the School Reform 3 Commission ratifying? 4 We had no plans directly to 5 Always a little bit behind start, you know. 6 the scenes things that, you know, through 7 the sales process that I would always be 8 working on and Joe would be working on to be 9 prepared so when it hit. Again, knowing the 10 nature of this job, and the fast track and 11 the emergency nature of it, and not wanting 12 to, you know, let our customer down, we, you 13 know, we were going to run it right up to 14 the edge waiting for the word to go. 15 Did SDT delay -- or let me back 16 Strike that. 17 up. Did SDT forgo working on any 18 other projects because you wanted to be 19 prepared to hit the ground running on the 20 persistently dangerous schools once you got the 21 22 okay? You can't afford to do 23 that. You keep moving. 24

191 Did SDT hire any employees on 1 0 the basis that you might get this 2 persistently dangerous schools project and 3 you needed to have the manpower for it? 4 No. 5 Α Did SDT purchase any equipment 6 on the basis that you might got get this 7 persistently dangerous schools project? 8 No. 9 \mathbf{A} After that meeting, did SDT do 10 any other work, and I mean work broadly, 11 like did you do any more surveys, did you 12 provide any more price quotes, even, you 13 know, verbally over the phone? Did you do 14 anything for the persistently dangerous 15 schools project after that meeting? 16 If I can remember correctly, 17 the only thing that I did was have several 18 conversations with the manufacturer's rep, 19 meaning our regional sales manager for UTC 20 to just again, to kind of pre-stage 21 equipment for availability, things of that 22 nature, because we knew we had some 23 long-lead items. You know, I'm always 24

219 Did you receive any indication 1 2 from the School District that they were going to be scrutinizing your rough estimate prior to 3 hiring SDT to do the persistently dangerous 4 schools project? 5 MR. HOMANS: Rough estimate on 6 7 cost? BY MR. KLAPROTH: 8 The rough estimate of 4.5 to 9 Q 10 6.5 million? If that was the basis for 11 12 delay, no. 13 Q And what do you mean by "if that were the basis for delay"? 14 If the School Reform Commission 15 Α wanted more security and didn't vote on it 16 the end of September because they want to 17 scrutinize our number, we had no indication 18 19 of that. As I mentioned earlier and previously testified, that, yes, they have 20 scrutinized our numbers and it's documented 21 22 that they have. And we knew all along that through the entire process, you know, until 23 we had concrete scope, concrete quantities, 24

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Kenneth Spressart

220 concrete everything, until a final number was arrived, that our numbers would be very closely watched only because we had to do competitive for the City. Have you ever participated in a project for the School District where the School Reform Commission did not ratify the resolution to begin work on the project? I am not aware of any, no. Α When you said before that the Q project was pulled and we were asked to turn in drawings, is that the time point when you had to turn in the drawings that you viewed the project, the persistently dangerous schools project, as being pulled from SDT? I don't view anything No. being pulled from us. We were asked to turn in documents. We didn't understand why. weren't quite sure what was coming down. But, you know, we always, we -- we were doing that job. At any point in time after you had finished the surveys up until you turned in the drawings, was there any indication

222 Done. Nothing transpired since 1 meeting. 2 then. What was the gross profit 3 Q margin that you were hoping to make on the 4 persistently dangerous schools project? 5 Again, trying to maintain our 6 company policy. You know, we were hoping to 7 be in the, somewheres high 20s, mid 30S. 8 Some things can change that number. 9 depending on you, know, equipment purchases 10 and this and that. But we were aiming for 11 that target goal there. 12 And I saw -- actually, why 13 Q don't you take a look at it again, D2. 14 Looking at D2, when you look at 15 the gross profit percentage column, we spoke 16 earlier that there is a range, that some of 17 them range from anywhere from 8.02 to, you 18 know, there is one here that is 37.65. There 19 is one that's 43.64. Did you have any 20 indication as to where this project, the 21 persistently dangerous schools projects, would 22 I know you said that you fall on that scale? 23 were hoping high 20s to mid 30S. Was that 24

223 based on the scope of other projects that you 1 2 had done for the School District? How were you reaching that number? 3 Again, the number we looked at, 4 in my mind -- remember, we had not finalized 5 Nothing was finalized on this job 6 anything. as far as cost, sale price, that number 7 could have been arranged this far apart. 8 And you are gesturing with your 9 Q hands about like 3 feet? 10 Yeah. A larger than -- only 11 because nothing was finalized. So going 12 looking at it, take a look at the two jobs, 13 the most two recent jobs that we did with 14 them prior to this, which would have been 15 the turn style and the tower doors, you're 16 looking at 31.04 and 36.29. So I'm saying, 17 you know, high 20s, mid 30s, I'm right 18 So again, that's just a target that 19 20 we were looking for. Now, if the SRC had passed or 21 ratified the resolution, then you would 22 expect a purchase order from the School 23 24 District for the persistently dangerous

224 1 schools project? 2 We would have expected some type of document. Again, we hadn't got to 3 the point where we even had firm numbers. 4 5 So I don't know even know where it ultimately ended up and how that came about 6 because we weren't there yet. So my opinion 7 moving forward on this thing is that once it 8 9 got ratified, I had to finish more my work yet to come up with a dollar value. 10 could have been X. And then they got an 11 approved contract value of Y, that would 12 13 have given them, you know, a cushion to handle additional work, if required, but I 14 15 wouldn't have gotten this. 16 By this? 0 17 I would have gotten this. A 18 You are pointing to Y being --Q Being the real number. Y being 19 A my final number to the School District based 20 upon having a much better handle on the 21 22 scope. And the other number would be 23 24 the cushion that you said that they would

225 have, the amount of money they have to spend 1 2 on the project? Well, somebody got X amount 3 Α approved. That didn't come from SDT. 4 5 0 Were you aware of anybody 6 getting X amount approved at any point for 7 persistently dangerous schools? 8 Α Not until it went public 9 knowledge. And when did it become public 10 Q 11 knowledge? I'm assuming the day it was 12 ratified because it's a public meeting. 13 And so if it was ratified and 14 0 15 say -- I am basically just going to give you a for instance here -- if it is ratified, 16 17 and they come back and they say, we have, 18 you know, you were projecting 4.5 to 6.5, if the School District came back with a lower 19 20 number than that, say, 3 or the SRC did on their ratification, how does that change the 21 job at that point? 22 It changes the scope of the 23 24 job. You start having to cut, again, based

226 1 on quantities to get to where you need to 2 be. 3 Q And if they came back with a 4 much larger number and give you a bigger 5 cushion, it would help you either expand the 6 job or get the job done completely with a 7 larger cushion in which to operate? 8 Not necessarily like a cushion 9 to operate. Basically, we would still be at 10 a fixed number based on a scope, and that number I'm referring to that I don't know 11 12 what that is yet or would have been yet. 13 they would have had contingency moneys 14 available to them to say they needed an 15 extra air conditioner or another power feed, 16 or something of that nature, but not necessarily that. 17 That difference would 18 have been to SDT just to do at our 19 willy-nilly, no, not at all. 20 Q Have you ever experienced the 21 SRC coming back from a proposed resolution 22 and the SRC limiting the scope of work from 23 that which was proposed to that which was 24 ratified?

245 1 0 And you see the paragraph, at 2 the bottom, where it says, "Spressart, 3 according to the sources, went to work immediately. He visited every site marking 4 5 up District specifications to show what equipment would be needed and where it would 6 7 be placed. SDT made a rough estimate that the entire project would cost 4.5 million to 8 9 6 million. The estimate was later increased based on internal district discussions." 10 Is that information that you 11 12 provided to "The Philadelphia Inquirer"? 13 I -- again, timing wise, I can't vouch for that. You know, 14 15 Spressart -- according to sources, that 16 could have been the School District, someone from the School District, also. 17 doesn't seem to jive because it says "no 18 comment" the following page. So that may 19 20 not have been me at all. 21 Okay. Where it says the rough estimate of the project, I believe you 22 23 testified today that your rough estimate was 24 4.5 to 6.5. In this article, it says 4.5 to

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246
 1
     6 million.
                 Is the article incorrect or is
 2
     your recollection?
 3
            Α
                       My verbal was four and a
 4
     half to six and a half.
 5
                  Okay. Take a look at what's
            0
 6
     been marked as D7 again.
 7
            A
                  Okay.
 8
            Q
                  If you could turn to page 7 of
 9
     that.
10
            Α
                   (Witness complies.)
11
            Q
                  Are you there?
12
            Α
                  Yes, I am.
13
                  Okay, see at top of the page,
14
    second paragraph. "Spressart summed up his
15
    dealings with the School District by noting,
     'I can emphatically say' that all dealings
16
17
    with the School District have been 'one
18
    hundred percent spot on.' He further stated
19
    that 'absolutely no one' has made
20
    inappropriate gestures. There has been
    'zero of that'."
21
22
                     Are you accurately quoted on
23
    page 7 of this document?
24
            Α
                  When I read that earlier, I'm
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260 1 potential vendors and manufacturers prior to 2 having to return the drawings? 3 A In light of what? 4 In light of learning that 5 what -- that SDT was a victim of what you 6 believe to be racial discrimination. 7 It's a difficult question to answer because, again, coming from a pure 8 9 business perspective, you like to be 10 compensated. But from an ethical 11 perspective, you know, it's very, very 12 difficult for me to answer that question. 13 I think you --14 Α Because it -- compared to what 15 we lost, it's a drop in a bucket. It --16 it -- it's insignificant. 17 And I think you testified 18 earlier that when you do -- when you put 19 together like an estimate or a proposal and 20 you do some sort of preliminary work, that that's something that is normally not 21 22 included ultimately in the purchase order or 23 the contract. 24 \mathbf{A} Correct. That's a cost of

261 1 Okay. That's not a item that we 2 typically will build into a project. 3 we're asked to view the designer of record, 4 then we will add that in our proposal. 5 typically on all of bid work, even design 6 bid work here, we do not charge for our 7 That's a cost of sales. That's an inherent cost. 8 9 And that's the same with the Q 10 persistently dangerous schools project? 11 Yes. Again, we knew it was 12 coming in. We knew it would be short term, 13 and we'd be under contract. So it's my 14 efforts, Joe Snell's efforts, it's what we 15 call cost of sale. 16 Is there a person at SDT whose 17 job it is to estimate? I know that 18 sometimes with contractors, there will be an 19 estimator or an estimating department. Is there a department like that at SDT? 20 21 Each sales rep is No. 22 responsible for their own estimates, and 23 then I have final approval. *We -- limits 24 that are -- we set.